

SECRET

AIR

EE/6/E
ESEN 5687
12-126-21

JAN 25 1957

Chief of Base, Berlin

Chief, EE

INFO: Chief of Station, Germany

Operational/COADCH
LOGASSOCK

ACTION REQUIRED: For information only.

1. The attached dispatch on LOGASSOCK was written prior to the receipt of []'s ESEN 37538. The latter hit our desk the very afternoon that we were planning to forward the attachment for coordination and approval by the appropriate higher echelons. Upon receipt of []'s thoughtful dispatch we naturally held back on forwarding the attachment until we had further opportunity to consider the problem in its various ramifications and specifically to compare the proposed LOGASSOCK projects as reflected in the outline with other operational activities, past and present, which in the final analysis are perhaps the most realistic and practical guides as to "what the traffic will bear," i.e. what the individual KODACH projects can be expected to accomplish and what they will in fact be allowed to do in the implementation of national policy at the operational level. We believe it is quite important that we remember the limitations as well as the possibilities of specific projects, and the channel between national policy, assuming it to be as outlined in paragraph 2 of []'s memorandum, and LOGASSOCK is a long one, with various echelons in-between. Each of these echelons exists for some purpose, although most of the old field-hands have wondered from time to time as to the why's and wherefore's. Anyway, these echelons exist and national policy is interpreted, refined, and limited in its applicability by these echelons to the areas of their respective jurisdictions. In the case at hand, the old definition that we will do things only when they have to be done covertly and when no other agency could do it as well still applies and must be considered as a limiting factor on the potential activities of LOGASSOCK, even though some of the proposed activities may well be in general pursuit of national policy. Limitations on proposed activities might also result from financial considerations and as a result of differing interpretations or judgments re feasibility and desirability.

2. The attached dispatch answers the LOGASSOCK field project outline

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2C
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in terms of the aforementioned considerations. The disagreement concerns not necessarily the objectives per se but whether KUBARK and more specifically LOGASBOOK should be pursuing them.

3. The project outline states five major objectives: we are in complete agreement concerning the propriety and desirability of Objective 1 d; we have some reservations but are ready to be persuaded on 1 e; we disagree on 1 f, which in our opinion is a purely overt undertaking which is taking place daily on a massive scale and to which LOGASBOOK's potential contribution is infinitesimal. 1 h and g may be desirable insofar as there may be an operational need for them which cannot be filled by available publications, studies and KUBARK staff activities. Be that as it may, we do not feel that LOGASBOOK could or should undertake such activities.

4. If you feel the need for a psychological workshop to explore and perfect paywar techniques applicable to specific geographic areas, we would be inclined to approve such a project provided that it was done on a modest scale, and independently of production and distribution activities. The reason for that is that most of our groups are interested in expanding the scope of their work and the number of their personnel and the objectivity of the approach is bound to suffer if the results have an impact on the sponsoring group's budget. In other words, GABRIEL's employees should not be in a position to influence us via the output of the workshop in our attitude toward GABRIEL's operational activities.

5. Apart from these general considerations there are also specific objections to LOGASBOOK productions. For example we fail to understand the purpose behind the Lonely Hearts leaflet (Van Horn su Horn) while Ris Ryan, an attractive publication which certainly entertained our secretaries here, is in no way different, better, or prettier from other women's magazines. There are also other questionable publications.

6. For the reasons outlined above, the Headquarters position remains as stated in the attached dispatch but we wanted you to know that ☐ ☐ 's arguments were given full consideration.

Attachment:

REF 5656

Distribution:

2 - BOB w/att

2 - COS w/att

1 - RI w/att

2 - EE/G w/att

☐ ☐ da

EE/COP
27 December 1956

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